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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference GENO200.3.	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/36247	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 03 November 2003 (03.11.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 01 November 2002 (01.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): C12Q, 1/68, C07H, 21/04 and US Cl.: 435/6, 91.2, 536/23.1, 24.3		
Applicant EVOLUTIONARY GENETICS LLC		
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>1</u> sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 		

Date of submission of the demand 28 May 2004 (28.05.2004)	Date of completion of this report 07 March 2005 (07.03.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/ US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer <i>Sally Sakelaris</i> Telephone No. 571-272-0500

I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

the international application as originally filed.

the description:

pages 1-25 as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

the claims:

pages 26, as originally filed

pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages 27, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

the drawings:

pages 1-10, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

the sequence listing part of the description:

pages 1-74, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).

the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).

the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in printed form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages NONE

the claims, Nos. NONE

the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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PCT/US03/36247**V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-11</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-11</u>	YES
	Claims <u>12 and 13</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-13</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 12-13 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Genbank accession number AAF05320.

The reference teaches the sequence of the toll-like receptor 4 and as a result claims 11-13 lack novelty.

Claims 1-11 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2) and (3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the claimed invention.

Claims 1-13 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

Database Genbank on NCBI, US National Library of Medicine, (Bethesda, MD, USA) No. AAF05320, SMIRNOVA et al. "Toll-like receptor 4" 24 October 2001.

RABY et al. Polymorphisms in Toll-Like Receptor 4 are not associated with asthma or Atopy-related Phenotypes. Am J Respir Crit Care Med Vol 166. pp 1449-1456, 2002.

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VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Claims 1-13 are objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(iii) as containing the following defect(s) in the form or contents thereof:
Applicant's recitation of "evolutionarily meaningful" is indefinite. It is not clear what applicant intends to claim using this recitation.
Is the mutation causing a change in the germline cells that is propagated to their progeny, or is the mutation in the nucleic acid sequence lead to an inability to carry one crucial processes causing death. Appropriate correction is required.

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VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the questions whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claims 1-13 are objected to as lacking clarity under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) because of the claims are not fully supported by the description. The description does not disclose the claimed invention in a manner sufficiently clear and complete for the claimed invention to be carried out by a person skilled in the art because: Applicant is entitled to only a scope of their invention, as the practice of the invention as broadly as it is claimed is unpredictable. As can be seen in the post-date filing reference of RABY et al. much unpredictability exists in the extrapolation of data from SNPs of the Toll-like receptor to diseases such as asthma.